

time prior to the commencement of Phase II.) In exchange, Laidlaw would be obligated to construct an appropriate disposal cell at its facility to receive LLW and MLLW and commit to proceed with Phase II. Phase II would include the actual shipment of wastes to the Deer Trail Facility.

Comments are invited on the Department's current policy regarding the disposal of LLW and MLLW at existing, licensed commercial facilities under DOE Order 5820.2A, and on the options illustrated by the WCS proposal and the Laidlaw proposal, to assist the Department in determining whether to continue or change its existing policies related to the use of commercial facilities for the disposal of LLW and MLLW. The Department is particularly interested in receiving comments on other types of options it should consider in formulating future policies for the disposal of LLW and MLLW. If the Department's policy analysis results in a proposal that would require the preparation of an environmental analysis pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act, an appropriate analysis will be prepared.

Dated: March 13, 1998.

James M. Owendoff,

Acting Assistant Secretary for Environmental Management.

[FR Doc. 98-7155 Filed 3-18-98; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Board, Hanford Site

AGENCY: Department of Energy.

ACTION: Notice of Open Meeting.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. No. 92-463, 86 Stat. 770) notice is hereby given of the following Advisory Committee meeting: Environmental Management Site-Specific Advisory Board (EMSSAB), Hanford Site

DATES: Thursday, April 2, 1998: 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.; Friday, April 3, 1998: 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

ADDRESSES: Cavanaugh's, 1101 N. Columbia Center Boulevard, Kennewick, Washington, 1-800-843-4667.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Gail McClure, Public Involvement Program Manager, Department of Energy Richland Operations Office, P.O. Box 550 (A7-75), Richland, WA, 99352; Ph: (509) 373-5647; Fax: (509) 376-1563.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Purpose of the Board

The purpose of the Board is to make recommendations to DOE and its regulators in the areas of environmental restoration, waste management, and related activities.

Tentative Agenda

The Board will receive information on and discuss issues related to Spent Nuclear Fuel and the FY 2000 Draft Hanford Budget. The Board will also receive updates on the N-Area Remediation, Accelerating Cleanup: Paths to Closure, the FY 1997 Performance Measures and FY 1998 Performance Agreements, and the Board Progress Report.

Public Participation

The meeting is open to the public. Written statements may be filed with the Committee either before or after the meeting. Individuals who wish to make oral statements pertaining to agenda items should contact Gail McClure's office at the address or telephone number listed above. Requests must be received 5 days prior to the meeting and reasonable provision will be made to include the presentation in the agenda. The Designated Federal Official is empowered to conduct the meeting in a fashion that will facilitate the orderly conduct of business. Each individual wishing to make public comment will be provided a maximum of 5 minutes to present their comments near the beginning of the meeting. This notice is being published less than 15 days in advance of the meeting due to programmatic issues that needed to be resolved.

Minutes

The minutes of this meeting will be available for public review and copying at the Freedom of Information Public Reading Room, 1E-190, Forrestal Building, 1000 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20585 between 9:00 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday-Friday, except Federal holidays. Minutes will also be available by writing to Gail McClure, Department of Energy Richland Operations Office, P.O. Box 550, Richland, WA 99352, or by calling him at (509) 376-9628.

Issued at Washington, DC on March 13, 1998.

Althea T. Vanzego,

Acting Deputy Advisory Committee Management Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

[Docket No. RP98-158-000]

Arkansas Gas Consumers v. NorAm Gas Transmission Company; Notice of Complaint

March 13, 1998.

Take notice that on March 11, 1998, pursuant to Rule 206 of the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, 18 CFR 385.206, the Arkansas Gas Consumers (AGC) tendered for filing a complaint against NorAm Gas Transmission Company (NorAm). AGC alleges that NorAm plans to increase the number of pooling zones on its system from 5 to 10 effective April 1, 1998, and that it intends to do so without filing to revise its tariff. AGC contends that this proposal is unreasonable, and absent tariff authority, is a violation of the Natural Gas Act.

AGC also contends that if NorAm implements its proposal pool operators will suffer decreased flexibility and restricted balancing ability. AGC further contends that the increase in the number of pooling zones will decrease pool operators' ability to aggregate small shippers' supplies into bundles large enough for sale. AGC argues that this will benefit NorAm's marketing affiliate, and that this is the real purpose underlying the proposal. AGC contends that, even without the proposed change, pooling on NorAm's system is improper and contributes to what AGC contends is a discriminatory NorAm discounting policy.

Any person desiring to be heard or protest with respect to said complaint shall file a motion to intervene or protest with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, 888 First Street, NE., Washington, DC 20426, in accordance with Sections 385.214 and 385.211 of the Commission's Rules and Regulations. All such motions and protests must be filed on or before March 27, 1998. All protests filed with the Commission will be considered in determining the appropriate course of action to be taken, but will not serve to make a protestant a party to the proceeding. Any person wishing to become a party must file a motion to intervene. Copies of this filing are available for public inspection in the